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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/568,795

Examiner

Marguerite J. McMahon

Applicant(s)

ULLRICH, MICHAEL

Art Unit

3747

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to IDS filed 6/26/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.


THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date See Continuation Sheet
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Marguerite McMahon
Primary Examiner
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Continuation of Attachment(s) 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date: 6/26/06/5/15/06/2/17/06.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Elizabeth Richter on August 30, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows: The following changes have been made to claim 1:

In the last line of page 3 (the first page of claims) "which thread is" has been changed to --said thread being--.

In the first line of page 4 "circumference" has been changed to --circumferential--.

In the second line of page 4, the following has been inserted after "outside" --of the connection projection--.

In line 3 of page 4 --, said support rib being—has been inserted after "support rib (12)" and "which" has been changed to --said--.

In line 4 of page 4 "has" has been changed to --having--.

In line 5 of page 4 "which thread is" has been changed to --said thread being--.

In line 6 of page 4 --of said rib—has been inserted after "inside".

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest the claimed invention as a whole including the screw connection consisting of the following elements:

- of an essentially tube-shaped connection projection that is affixed on the underside of the piston crown and is disposed coaxial to the piston longitudinal axis, and has an outside thread on its end that faces away from the piston crown in the axial direction, said thread being disposed on a circumferential side of the connection projection that lies radially on the outside of the connection projection,

- of a support rib, said support rib being molded onto the lower part, said rib having an inside thread on its piston crown end, viewed in the axial direction, said thread being disposed on a surface that lies radially on the inside of said rib,

- and of an essentially tube- shaped intermediate sleeve having a thread that lies on the inside and a thread that lies on the outside, by means of which the upper part can be screwed together with the lower part, by way of the connection projection and by way of the support rib, and which sleeve is configured in such a manner that when this happens, the connection projection can be expanded and the intermediate sleeve can be compressed, in the context of a multi-part piston for an internal combustion engine having an upper part that has a piston crown, on which part a ring wall having a ring belt is molded on, and having a lower part that is connected with the upper part by way of a screw connection and has pin bosses having pin bores on its lower side facing away from the upper part, and having piston skirt elements connected with the pin bosses.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marguerite J. McMahon whose telephone number is 571-272-4848. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Wednesday and Friday, 10am-6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steve Cronin can be reached on 571-272-4536. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Marguerite McMahon
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3747